



Photo: M Perry

"Keeping Track" December 2010 to June 2011

Carterton Railway Museum

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Hello members and friends, doesn't time fly?

Hope you had a great Christmas and New Year.
Just a short newsletter to keep you in the loop.

27 February 2011—More tree work

The trees in the corner of the fence by the drain needed to be removed, as the Carterton District Council was clearing the area around and in the drain.



Photo by M. Perry

New rail bridge over a stream south of Dalefield taken on 1 January 2011



Photo by D Hodge

26 March 2011

9 January 2011—Tree work

After days of strong winds, there was a lot of tree work to be done, and you can see in the photo below the amount that is on the truck. The work was a health and safety issue and necessary.



Photo by D. Hodge



Photo by D Hodge

Freight wagons (in right foreground) not often seen on freight trains through Carterton.

16 April 2011



Photo by D Hodge

DXB5051 hauling a freight train up the big haul to Carterton station. They were not wasting any time this day.

Many thanks to the Steam Inc group for allowing us to be part of this momentous day. Even the weather played its part, as you can see from the photos it was a beautiful sunny day.



Photo by D. Hodge

The excursion approaching Carterton Railway Station from the south.

29 April 2011

Steam Incorporated's beautifully turned out DA1431 hauling the heritage carriages on the DA's inaugural excursion from Paekakariki through the Wairarapa, and via the Manawatu Gorge back to Paekakariki. Seen in the photo below having arrived at Carterton station, where the passengers visited the Museum sited in the 130+ year old Station.



Photo by D. Hodge

The loco sounded great. Don was told she was running lovely. No wonder the excursion returned to Paekakariki early.



Photo by D. Hodge

The Loco from a different angle.

Welcome!

We have a new member, Doug Johnston. Doug has recently retired from his Train Managers job on the Wairarapa commuter trains. He has already started helping, taking on the task of sorting out the hundreds, possibly thousands of newspaper cuttings the group has accumulated over the years. Welcome aboard Doug!



Photo by K & K O'Reilly

Lady in Red—DA1431 arriving at historic Carterton railway station.

Steam Inc is running DA 1431 on another excursion, and on the 14th November 2011, will be coming via the Wairarapa, but from the North this time, and will make a stop at our museum. The excursion is on 12th November, 2011 to Gisborne via the Manawatu gorge and back through the Wairarapa.



Photo by M. Perry

Above: Guards van - Below: Farewell, come again



Photo by K & K O'Reilly

Retro 1950's Themed Weekend

Easter weekend Don and I decided to go to Palmerston North's first Square Affair Retro Festival. It ran from Friday to Sunday, the main days being Saturday and Sunday.

For those of you that have an interest in smaller trains, amongst the displays were a few static Meccano loco's (one was based on a Garratt), also moving trains of various types, plus a static display of Hornby train sets from the 1930's up and a couple of displays running various Hornby trains, one of which had "Coronation" printed on its sides.

These displays were held in the P N Convention Centre, the interesting thing about that was, upstairs in the lobby part near the Hornby train displays, were at least four enlarged photos of Palmerston North railways when they were in the centre of town. The photo on the eastside wall was of the old rail yards, and that is exactly where the Convention Centre is sited today.

An interesting thing the Meccano group had set up, was a room where anyone could go and build a Meccano model under instruction of a Tutor, they could then see if it was something they may be interested in taking up. A good way to get new members, especially the young. It was a very popular section of the displays.

We understand that the Retro Festival will now become a regular event each Easter.

Donation

The group had been purchasing tea towels for resale, white with black printing showing the current railway stations on the line. They have been a popular seller, and we were delighted and very grateful, when 9 of the tea towels were donated to the society by the lady that made them. The lady was going overseas and wanted the society to benefit from the tea towels she had left over.

Archives—Visit

One weekend the Hawkins family visited the station. They were on a four day campervan holiday around the Wairarapa, and particularly wanted to see the Carterton station. Mr Hawkins had discovered from a book prepared for the family's 150 years, his Great Grand father, Erasmus Hawkins had worked on building the station 1879 to 1880. Their family farm is north of Wellington and at present they have 7 generations living in the farm area. Erasmus B Hawkins was born in Wellington in 1852 and moved to Greytown as a 10 year old (1862), on his own, as an apprentice carpenter. Erasmus was known as "Ras". Ras was apparently a bit of a character. he used to shoot pigeons as a boy where the Greytown Post Office now stands. His pay in those days as an apprentice was half a sovereign a week. In later years it is said that he pointed rather than drove his Model T Ford out and about. He died in 1941 at the age of 89, after a bout of illness. The family very kindly let us have a copy of the information for the groups archives.

Thanks

Thanks to Jim Doohan for his continued work in collecting newspaper cuttings for the society. It is a great help.

Bird is the word; actually it should be dirty birds!

Photo by D. Hodge



Member Gary Boden tying up what we hope is our secret weapon against bird droppings, the poor station was covered in it.



Photo by D. Hodge

As you can see from the picture above, Gary was tying CD's around the station entrance, it is hoped that the twirling, shining CD's will keep the birds away. They were also tied along under the station veranda for the same purpose. Fingers crossed and here's hoping!

The guys have spent a lot of time cleaning the station, and although she looks great, there is more work to be done. The guys also cleaned out the gutters and ended up with a bucket of debris, even after Gary and John had already cleared out the birds nests and unblocked the down pipes, which had caused overflows during a downpour.

Thanks guys, job well done!

The rail yard is looking very tidy, many thanks to member John Lipinski. John has been steadily working away during the weeks and it shows!

Daffodil Day update

Steam Inc is bringing a Steam excursion up to Carterton's Daffodil Day 11 September, 2011.

However, at this time CRM is unfortunately unable to do the Carterton to Masterton and return trip as a fundraiser, as KiwiRail have a freight train coming through, and that means a wait at Masterton rail yard for the steam train of two hours. It is not possible to expect people to wait that long and not be able to get off the train for a break.

The society will have the usual open day.

Wairarapa N Z R L S & The Fell Museum

Members of the above combined to host an evening at the Fell Museum in Featherston on Saturday 16th April, 2011 @ 7pm.

With George Watt, Wairarapa representative of N Z R L S, Graeme Jupp of the Fell presented an illustrated talk on the Nelson to Glenhope Railway, including photo's of the line prior to its closure in 1955. Our group was invited along. Member Jim Doohan made his own way there, while Don and I picked up John Lipinski on our way through to Featherston. Entry was by a gold coin donation to assist with the cost of supper. The weather was terrible that night. Those that came over the Rimutaka's said it was bad on the hill.

Considering the weather there was a good number of folk that turned out. The illustrated talk was very interesting with the mix of photo's from the past, compared with the recent photo's of what remains, mostly taken by Graeme on their trip. After the show, Barry O'Donnell, Author of "When Nelson Had a Railway", had copies of his book available, and a lovely supper was enjoyed before the journey home.

It was an enjoyable night despite the weather. Thank you Graeme and George for inviting us.



Photo by D. Hodge

Reflections; Part of the Carterton station complex is reflected on the side of a commuter carriage at the platform.



Photo by D. Hodge

A very mucky EF 30157 being towed south for what we assume will be a repaint. Not often seen in the Wairarapa, this day there were two separately being towed, one north, EF 30137 and the above.

Bye for now, we'll be keeping track again later.

Editors; Marlene Perry and Don Hodge

Disclaimer: Any views or comments made in this newsletter are the editors, and are not necessarily the views or comments of W R R S/ C R M.