

December 2008

Carterton Mail Express

Wairarapa Railway Restoration Society

Carterton's Historic Railway Station

PO Box 202

Carterton



North Island Main Trunk (NIMT) Centenary— "All Aboard" Fielding Labour Weekend 2008

Over Labour Weekend Fielding and District Steam Rail Society Inc hosted "All Aboard" railway festival celebrating a centenary of the NIMT.

Trips included a Steam Double Header to Taumarunui, Silver Fern Railcar to Palmerston Nth and Wanganui, Steam trains to Woodville and Taihape

Photos below cover some of the events of the weekend, all taken by member Iain Alisdair Palmer



Rubbish Bin Saga — Osama BIN Laden stalks Carterton

For A Long time the group has been asking for at least two rubbish bins to be installed on the Carterton Station platform. Because of the very remote chance of an arson attack, the bins need to be attached to the galvanised steel power poles or their own 'stand-alone' posts, on either side of the station building.

I moved to Carterton about three months ago. I decided one day to go for a walk, and being a rail nut I went via the railway station. I was somewhat shocked to see the amount of rubbish alongside of the tracks and blowing round the station precinct. I went round collecting all the rubbish I could find, even taking empty drink bottles from two girls who were waiting for the train. (They thanked me and remarked on the absence of rubbish bins on the station.) Unfortunately I didn't have anything to put the rubbish in so I left it in a pile outside the ticket office door hoping that the ticket staff would dispose of it.

When I got home I rang the Greater Wellington Regional Council office in Masterton to make a formal complaint. The office lady was sympathetic and promised to pass my complaint to the appropriate authority in the Wellington office. I waited for about a week but heard nothing back.

I then wrote to the GWRC head office and asked that rubbish bins be installed on the station platform. I received the following reply from Richard Noakes: (direct quote, spelling mistakes and all)

"When the Wairarapa line received its upgrade of station facilities in 2006/07 permission was sought to include the siting of rubbish bins at all stations along the line, this permission was denied on the grounds that rubbish bins were an area of concern in regards to terrorist attacks."

As you can imagine I was shocked. Terrorists in Carterton? Then I saw the funny side of it. Mr. Noakes also stated that TranzMetro were actually the ones who should be looking at this question. I wrote to TranzMetro and got the following reply from Adam Harrison: (direct quote, including bad grammar)

"I have spoken to those involved in station Maintenance, Carterton Station is actually not owned by TranzMetro, The stations concerned are owned by the Wellington regional council. The council have been advised that bins will not be installed at stations, rubbish bins are only provided at manned stations. If rubbish is becoming an issue at stations it is the responsibility of the GWRC."

It appears to me that there is a lot of 'buck' passing here.

I then passed on Mr. Noakes' email to the Wairarapa Time-Age who published it in an news item on Tuesday, November 4. This news item was picked up by Hugh Barlow, a producer of Radio New Zealand's 'Morning Report.' Hugh asked if I was prepared to go on Morning Report if he could get someone from GWRC and TranzMetro as well. Both organizations refused to come on the programme, apparently each stating that it was the other organizations problem. Hugh is still working at getting someone to front up. Consequently, the saga of the Carterton rubbish bins goes on!

FOOTNOTE: The Wairarapa Railway Restoration Society has the backing of the Carterton Mayor, Garry McPhee.

Story by: Bill Ingley



Waingawa Station seen after first coat of new paint
Photo Iain Alisdair Palmer

Workshop and Yard

- Yard cleanup
- Tree falling in Stock Yard
- Waingawa Station Painting
- Yard spraying
- Motor Trolley (Jigger) WW9611, body woodwork

President's Ponder

Welcome to our last newsletter for 2008. Firstly I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new members, Rev. Bill Ingley, Ray Munro, Bernard Columbus, Alistair Barr, John Lipinski, Kathy Lenihan & James Conyerd who have joined our group in the last few months, we hope you enjoy your travel with us.

Already many of you have contributed to the group's advancements with time & donation of items for the museum.

Since our AGM in September much more activity has been taking place in the precinct with the removal of 3 very large Macrocarpa trees & cleaning up of the grassed area where the stock yards used to be prior to the 1970's.

This will make way for our future developments to move the Waingawa Station building which has just been painted into this area on a raised platform and eventually having track laid.

A raft of other activities have taken place over recent weeks including a general tidying of the precinct & further preparation of the "T" wagon for new timber & paint. Most of our other wagons will also be spruced up over the next few months.

Our Archive & Research team of Kath & Marlene continue to forge ahead with display upgrades & collation of information on railway staff and railway history being passed to our Society.

This is a timely reminder that our group has been for sometime collecting information on former & current employees of the Railways in NZ since it started in the 1800's.

If you wish to contribute any information it would be appreciated. All information gathered is made available to those undertaking research into railway staff. We have received enquiries from as far away as Australia, that request being for information on a former Petone Stationmaster. Our contact details are in this newsletter.

Our ladies continue to catalogue the many items being donated to the Museum. New member Alistair has donated history of activities & items he purchased in the 1980's from NZR all to do with Carterton.

He also purchased the large NZR notice board (complete) from the Waingawa Station when it was closed in the 80's, this is now returning to its original home.

Our website is now up & running thanks to our youngest member Alisdair (Iain) Palmer, there are still more updates to be made but this will be on going.

On behalf of the Executive I wish all our members, friends & our colleagues in our FRONZ family the very best for Christmas with a Happy & Safe New Year with enjoyment in your pastime actives.

Ken O'Reilly

Required

- ⇒ Tablet Terminal Switch-out box
- ⇒ Photos of Wairarapa Stations

Upcoming Events

- ⇒ Christmas BBQ (members only)
 - ⇒ 7th December 2008
- ⇒ FRONZ Conference
 - ⇒ Queens Birthday Weekend 2009
- ⇒ Daffodil Day 2009

Station Open Hours

Museum

Every Sunday between 11am and 4pm

Other times by appointment



Ticket Office

Open for selected south bound trains only

Ticket service provided by Travel Smart Wairarapa

Weekdays

5.45 am to 7.10 am

10.25 am until 10.40 am

3.40 pm until 4 pm

Sunday

5 pm until 5.16 pm

Contact Details

President Ken O'Reilly

Secretary: Kath O'Reilly

Phone: (06) 377 0631

Email: carterton.rail.museum@xnet.co.nz

Vice-President

Vacant

Phone:

Treasurer

Philip Vallance

Phone: (06) 378 6268

Website

The Society new and improved website is now online

<http://www.CartertonRailwayMuseum.org.nz>

Other site worth a visit is

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carterton_Railway_Station



DXB 5097 leads the Capital Connection carriages through Maymorn, returning from 'Toast Martinborough', Sunday 16 November 2008
Photo Tony Hurst



DX's 5051 and 5166 lead train 640 on its first trip, seen here at Opaki
Photo Iain Alisdair Palmer, 30th November 2008

The Views expressed in 'Carterton Mail Express' newsletter are not necessarily the views of the Wairarapa Railway Restoration Society Inc

Members: Federation of Rail Organisations of New Zealand (FRONZ), Wairarapa Heritage Association

Acknowledges the support of:



Carterton District Council

NZ Rail Heritage Trust

