



July 2018

Getting Back On Track.

Now that the CW track wagon is operational, we have begun replacing worn out wooden track sleepers on the railway. The wagon is fitted out to carry track tools and components, and houses a large capacity diesel air compressor and generator. A small jib above the deck can be used to lift heavy items.

Taking advantage of a warm, sunny midwinter's day, the CW was hauled into position on Saturday - carrying the ProLine together with various air and hand tools, which were used to remove the existing track bolts.



A hired backhoe dug out old sleepers, replacing them with larger concrete ones. These were lifted, and attached to the rails with Pandrol clips. Ballast was tamped under the track using air tools driven from the CW's compressor - less physically stressful than the heavy old 'Wacker' petrol-powered bone-shaker.

With the job completed, tools were stored in the CW, and the old sleepers and Proline were lifted onto the deck, facilitating a rapid clean up of the work site. With new skills learned, plus the efficiency of having tools and components at hand ready to roll out on the line, a long list of deferred track maintenance items will be tackled as the weather becomes warmer.



Other Notes



- The June **Passenger Count** was 303
- The new tubes have been placed in **B10's** boiler after the completion of tube plate work. They now need to be rolled securely into place.
- The new 'track out the back' **storage road** beyond the wagon turntable has been connected up.
- The wooden sides of **A 1514** have been repaired and primed.
- Work on refurbishing the **Yb ballast wagon** continues. A jigsaw of brake components was removed for cleaning and painting. The wagon was jacked up to remove its leaf springs, which have been disassembled for cleaning, painting and oiling. The wheelsets will shortly be replaced.



Taieri Gorge Trip

A Taieri Gorge Railway trip is planned for Saturday 14 July. A bus will depart Oamaru Steam and Rail at 9:30am. The train departs at 12:30 pm for the Taieri Gorge and Pukerangi, arriving back in Dunedin at 4:30 pm. The bus will be back in Oamaru around 6:30 pm.

The train fare is \$45.50 per adult (usually \$91) and children are free (usually not). If we can fill the bus, the all up cost would be \$70.00. Let Harry know by **this Sunday** 027 277 4678 or clean_cut@xtra.co.nz First in first served!

Come along for a Cuppa: Friday 13th of July at The Brydone

Everyone is welcome to attend our informal monthly coffee mornings. Come along for a chat over a cuppa at The Brydone Hotel on the 13th of July at 10:15am. As always, please RSVP to Anthea by the evening of the 11th so that we can give them an idea of our numbers (anthea.oamaru@gmail.com)