



November 2017

Welcome (back!) to the Oamaru Steam and Rail Restoration Society's newsletter, updating members far and wide on our activities.

### Train Running

- Both the weather and tourist season have been picking up in recent weeks, reflected in increasing passenger numbers. We are always on the lookout for more members willing to join the train and station crew.
- Dunedin's Silver Fern railcar has made two visits to our new 'Whisky Siding' platform, allowing passengers disembark in heart of the Victorian/Waterfront precinct, rather than blocking Thames St to unload.
- Over 1600 passengers rode the train on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October in support of the America's Cup visit to Oamaru. Our train shuttled between Whisky Siding and penguin colony between 1 and 6pm, offering free rides and carrying the Cup to the yacht club as part of the celebration.
- A successful fundraiser had a visiting Dunedin Railways train run from Oamaru to Herbert and back on Father's Day, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.



### Working on the Railway

- We were closed briefly in July/August following heavy rains that washed clay and rock onto sections of the line and road. A rapid response opened the line quickly, but additional work is required to completely remove embedded clay. Negotiations are continuing with the local council.

- A large Maintenance of Way vehicle is being constructed on the remains of coal wagon CW 57. Procured by a recycling company for its aluminum hopper, we were able to exchange our time and dismantling 'expertise' for the steel underframe, which was moved to our premises in June. The wagon will have a compartment at one end (an FM/FH guards van module with compressor, generator, workbench and tools), a flat section in the middle for carrying loads and a crane/digger at the other end.
- Our passenger train has been recertified with its 'warrant of fitness' for another year. This included servicing the brake systems and updating electrical cable runs, which will also carry an in-train PA system.
- The Husky loco's brakes have received attention so that it can take over passenger train duties from TR35, enabling that loco to be refreshed.
- The replacement tubes for B10 have been tested by a metallurgist. We hope to have these in our hands shortly so this loco can be returned to steam.
- A Yb ballast wagon has arrived from the Ocean Beach Railway. Built in 1941, the wagon has been secured under cover for future restoration.



## Other Events

Our regular monthly social chat over coffee will be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November at 10:15 at the Brydone Hotel. RSVP to Anthea ([anthea.oamaru@gmail.com](mailto:anthea.oamaru@gmail.com))

Officers elected at the recent AGM: President: Phillip Screen; Vice President: John Paul; Treasurer: John Dustin; Secretary: Graham Bull; GM: Harry Andrew; Committee: Geoff Ellis, Alister Paton, Mike McErlane, Allan Killick, Dave Clark, Darryl Bond, John Lister

