

# The Oamaru Steam and Rail Digest



February 2019

## OSR 'Welcome to 2019' Dinner

We will be holding our annual dinner on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> of February at the Star and Garter restaurant - opposite Harbourside Station. The evening begins at 6:30pm, cost is \$35 per head, spouses/partners are welcome. Please RSVP to Harry or by replying to the email address that sent you this newsletter.

Federation of Rail Organisations of NZ President and Dunedin Railways Operations Manager Grant Craig will present on the development of the big NZR J series 4-8-2 locos, Dunedin Railways and FRONZ.



## Come along for a Cuppa : Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of February

All are welcome to join us for a cuppa and a chat at our monthly social coffee morning. Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 10:15, and this month at the Lagonda Tearooms as we tour the town's coffee houses. Corner of Eden and Thames St (we will be in the side room). No need for an RSVP this month - just turn up!

## Other Dates for the Diary

- Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February – 'Cheers to Beers and Wine' day. The Husky will be shuttling passengers for free between Whisky Siding and the festival location near the Waterfront Rd/Esplanade intersection.
- Steam loco B10 operating Sundays: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Husky operating Sundays: 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Feb (plus Sat 16<sup>th</sup> as above)
- There will be no workshop day on Waitangi Day - Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Feb

Despite the on-and-off summer weather, we had a great start to 2019 with **983 passengers carried in January**. Another big increase from 770 last year.



The external refresh of our train was recently completed with an underframe repaint, so it looks fantastic at the moment. It receives many compliments and this is something that we, and the town, can be very proud of. Again, a huge **thank you** to the crews and workshop volunteers who make all this possible.



### Humber Street Barrier Arms

Our defenses at the crossing of Humber Street opposite Steampunk HQ have been bolstered by the installation of barrier arms at the railway crossing.

This complex project, spanning many months, covered not only the obvious infrastructure but also the technical aspects required to bring the arms into service.

Work began with the acquisition, cleaning, painting and installation of suitable components, including barrier arms, counterweights and motor boxes, protective bollards, trenching for cable runs, control box modifications, and electronic control circuits - together with the necessary genius required to link this all together! Well done to all who were involved in this project.

