



January 2018

Happy New Year to all of our members and friends!

D16 Visit for Coast New Zealand

The big news for December was undoubtedly the brief visit of D16 to our tracks.

With the generous assistance of the Pleasant Point Museum and Railway, the Victorian-era steam locomotive returned to Oamaru's harbour for the first time in 55 years to star in an episode of the BBC documentary series *Coast New Zealand*, hosted by Scottish presenter Neil Oliver.

Built by Nielson and Co of Glasgow in 1878, D16 worked at many locations - including Oamaru - until being sold to the New Zealand Refrigerating Company in 1918 for use at Pukeuri, where she served until the 1970s.

Her last visit to Oamaru tracks was in 1962 as part of the 'Cavalcade of Progress' marking the town's centenary. Teamed up with D6 - then in use at McDonald's Lime at Kakanui - they ran trains through the old industrial area and goods yard, around the harbour, and down to the quarry that is now the penguin colony.



Speeding through the streets with some indignity on the back of a McLeod Contracting trailer, D16 was unloaded onto OSR rails via our ramp with TR35 providing the pulling power on the 5th.

Filming began early on the 7th, with Neil Oliver and his small group of helpers arriving well-armed with cameras, drones, and sound recording equipment. As well as filming the train, the episode will cover the breakwater and harbour. It is expected to be screened before the middle of next year.

A huge thanks to Pleasant Point Museum and Railway (especially Leon James and Dowell McLeod) and the crews for making this event a reality.



Train Running

- D16 created a stir about town while running for the public on the 10th, with railfans coming from as far away as Dunedin and Ashburton to ride the train and record former Pukeuri shunters D16, Tr35 and the Husky together.
- December passenger numbers were recorded at 871

Working on the Railway

- Our train is now equipped with a high quality PA/sound system which can be used to play music during charters, and make announcements. At the same time, train wiring and the electrical gizmos that control warning lights on the guards van was refurbished.
- Work on the CW maintenance wagon continues with the diesel-powered air compressor getting a new control panel and plumbing. A swivel jib has also been fitted to assist with lifting tools to and from ground level.
- A new station sign has been installed amongst the roses at Harbourside.

Items of Note

Everyone is welcome to come along for a chat and a cuppa at our informal monthly coffee mornings at the Brydone Hotel. The next gathering is on the 12th of January at 10:15am. RSVP to Anthea by the 10th (anthea.oamaru@gmail.com)