



October 2018

- The September **Passenger Count** was 233.

### **Humber Street Crossing**

The installation of barrier arms at our Humber Street road crossing is almost complete. We have recorded many cars driving through the Stop sign at this intersection as they check there is no traffic coming from Tyne street, but then drive straight through our flashing railway crossing lights. With the Police seemingly powerless to act, NZTA has recommended barrier arms be installed to mitigate the risk of a possible collision with our trains.

This effort has involved far more than the visible barrier arms - requiring trenching for track circuits, the digging and placement of protective concrete posts, and the design and wiring of an array of electronic control components. Along with the hours expended, this has also been a large expense - with benefits mainly accruing to the community at large rather the railway directly. Sourcing mechanical and electrical parts second-hand and refurbishing them has made the project possible, along with a WDC Community Group grant.



### **Warrant of Fitness Time Again**

The annual check of our rolling stock is underway. Wheels, bearings, couplers, brakes and safety equipment is tested in-house before being certified by an external reviewer.

## Other Work

- The overhead luggage racks have been finished within carriage **A 1514**, with the brass rodding and black netting looking very elegant indeed.
- Work continues on the exterior refresh of passenger carriage **A 796**.
- **Trackwork**: 6 new sleepers were installed at Harbourside station while the tracks were shifted out from the platform to allow the Silver Fern railcar from Dunedin to dock here.
- The **Yb Ballast Wagon's** brake gear is being reinstalled, with previously hard-to-access components being relocated into the ends for ease of future maintenance.
- Work on our **CW** work wagon continues with the design and fabrication of a grabber claw to be fitted to the end of the digger's arm.

## NB 1716 Open Wagon Refresh

Our open wagon is a big draw for the railway, being very popular with passengers on all but the most miserable days.

Following its warrant of fitness inspection and underside repaint, the red top rail, white interior sides and kick sills were recoated and some of the signage tidied up. This work – along with the new wooden seating - has spruced up the wagon in the interim until it is rebuilt in the next year or two.

You may notice more advertising panels going up within the open wagon. These thank our supporters and create an annual revenue stream contributing funds for future projects. With the help of Streeter Concepts and the support of local businesses, more of the signs will be installed over the next month.



## Come along for a Cuppa: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> of October 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 12th of October at 10:15am. As always, please RSVP to Anthea by the evening of the 10th so that we can give the Brydone an idea of our numbers ([anthea.oamaru@gmail.com](mailto:anthea.oamaru@gmail.com))