

# The Oamaru Steam and Rail Digest



September 2018

- The August **Passenger Count** was 187.
- Work continues on carriage **A 1514**, with bodyside repairs painted, and netting being strung onto the 'new' overhead luggage racks.
- The exterior of passenger carriage **A 796** has also received attention with a repair from some years ago being refreshed and repainted.
- The installation of **barrier arms** across the Humber street crossing near Harbourside Station continues this month with control boxes containing the electronics and barrier arm actuators installed, along with concrete posts to protect these from errant motorists.
- **Trackwork**: 14 new sleepers were installed this month.

## Steam Loco B10

A notable achievement for the month was the installation of B10's boiler tubes. 48 of these metal pipes sit between thick steel 'tubeplates' at the front and rear of the boiler. The tubeplates each have 48 slightly-oversize holes so that the tubes can be inserted freely, and then their ends must be expanded in diameter against the holes to provide a water and steam-tight seal.

A hydraulic tube expander was hired from Christchurch, and over a period of three days, each tube was positioned, clamped and rolled into place at each end of the boiler – 96 expansions in total.

Following this tube rolling, B10's boiler was filled with water to test the work. A small number of tubes needed to be re-rolled to eliminate a few leaks. The water was then manually pumped up in stages to just above the loco's normal maximum operating pressure and the tube work was declared sound. Unfortunately, a couple of unexpected leaks showed up in various control valves and at the regulator. These issues will be attended to next.



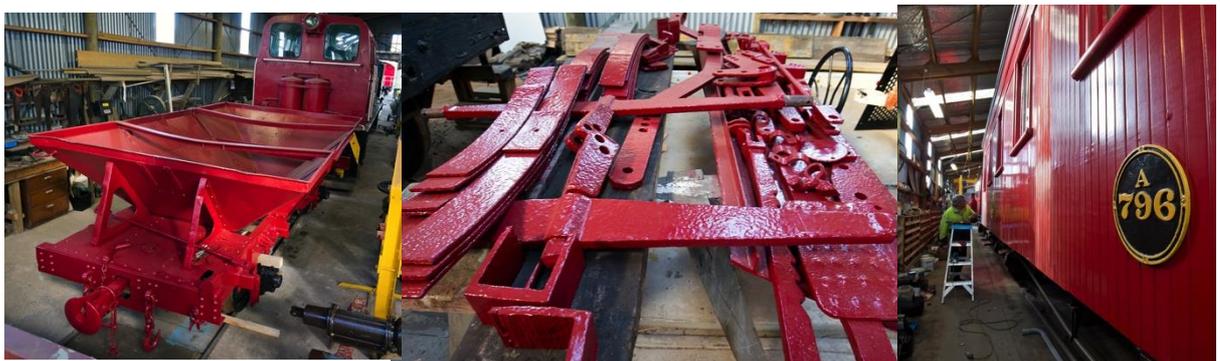
## CW Track Maintenance Wagon

This continues to take shape with the top of the Hymac excavator now securely installed in place and undergoing restoration. In addition to a general overhaul of its motor and hydraulics, a replacement slew motor will be installed to reinstate the digger's ability to swivel around. The cab has been removed for refurbishment and controls are being adjusted to match modern practice. Parts have been designed and cut out of thick steel for a new 'claw' attachment that will be used to pick up and install sleepers.



## Yb Ballast Wagon

Work continues with the ballast wagon. Its body has been painted, flipped back upright, and placed onto roller bearing wheelsets. The jigsaw of brake and spring components has been painstakingly cleaned up and painted, and these are being reassembled.



## Come along for a Cuppa: Friday 14<sup>th</sup> of September 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 14th of September at 10:15am. As always, please RSVP to Anthea by the evening of the 12th so that we can give the Brydone an idea of our numbers ([anthea.oamaru@gmail.com](mailto:anthea.oamaru@gmail.com))