

Monthly Report April 2015

Wednesday 1st.

³⁵/₁₇ 3 staff on duty.

³⁵/₁₇ Jim H, due to a beautiful windless day the rubbish from the charters was burnt in the fire pit. Littlies birthday parties sure generate a lot of rubbish.

³⁵/₁₇ Denyse & Graeme R fitting the last of the wiring for the emergency braking electrical overrides system into the # 1 end of 2584.

³⁵/₁₇ This job has sure had it's moments & tribulations but turning out to be worth while.

³⁵/₁₇ The NZTA are happy with the concept & is now very close to completion.

³⁵/₁₇ The emergency BP venting valve has been removed from Nak 6078 & plugged at the Brake pipe.

³⁵/₁₇ F706 has been left in heritage condition with the venting valve handle locked into the closed position.

³⁵/₁₇ A 56536 has also had it's venting valve removed & blinded.

Thursday 2nd.

³⁵/₁₇ 5 staff on duty

³⁵/₁₇ Rest Home Charter.

³⁵/₁₇ Eileen baking for the rest homes afternoon tea.

³⁵/₁₇ Graeme R & Denyse wired in the last components for the Emergency brake system

³⁵/₁₇ Denyse printed out the signs for the operating stations in the carriages & got them laminated ready for fitting.

³⁵/₁₇ The charter crew were Denyse-Driver, Jim Blyde 2nd, man, Graeme Relf guard & Ian Hancock Guard.

³⁵/₁₇ Eileen caterer.

³⁵/₁₇ The new override system was tested & training on the system carried out & working well.

³⁵/₁₇ The Tainui Rest Home did a nice plaque for us as we have hosted them (8 trips) over the last few months & the love the home made short bread & scones—they have good appetites!

³⁵/₁₇ 2 staff on site

³⁵/₁₇ Jim H & D.R. cleaning up

³⁵/₁₇ 2 staff off site.

³⁵/₁₇ Eileen doing the station laundry.

³⁵/₁₇ Denyse on paper work for the NZTA for the E brake override.

Saturday 4th.

³⁵/₁₇ 5 staff on duty.

³⁵/₁₇ Jim Blyde & Carl McCullough body repairs to Tr 407.

³⁵/₁₇ Mike Zeier & Darryn Tuffrey on extending the retaining wall at Strange street to stop motorcycles doing any more damage to the banks & scattering expensive ballast.

³⁵/₁₇ Denyse fitting signage in F 726.

³⁵/₁₇ Total volunteer hours at week 26—5,730 hrs.

Sunday 5th.

³⁵/₁₇ 6 staff on duty.

³⁵/₁₇ Running day with good loadings being Easter Sunday.

Monday 6th.

³⁵/₁₇ 3 staff Denyse, Eileen & Jim H.

³⁵/₁₇ Take the battery off charge on A 56536.

³⁵/₁₇ Clean the station & de ice the freezer seals.

³⁵/₁₇ Empty the bins.

Tuesday 7th.

³⁵/₁₇ 2 staff. Denyse & Graeme.

³⁵/₁₇ Travel to New Plymouth to purchase some steel & electrical fittings.

³⁵/₁₇ Fit blanking plugs on 2584 to lock in the alarm MU cable when not in use.

³⁵/₁₇ Official sanction has been given on our emergency brake override system by the NZTA. Now signed off.

Wednesday 8th.

³⁵/₁₇ 2 staff & 1 visitor. Denyse, Eileen & Phil Barnes.(UK).

³⁵/₁₇ Purchased some timber for signage & printed off the signs plus painting the timber backgrounds ready for assembly.

³⁵/₁₇ E Mails from Glenbrook re the swap of a ballast wagon for two gear boxes.

³⁵/₁₇ Rest Home charter abandoned today due to the heavy rain, will be run in September & date is already locked in.

³⁵/₁₇ Management Meeting.

³⁵/₁₇ During the meeting the power went off & it was like séance huddled around the table working by torchlight, all in a days work on the WRPS!

Thursday 9th.

³⁵/₁₇ 1 staff off site work. Denyse.

³⁵/₁₇ Laminate the new sign for the emergency valve on F 726.

³⁵/₁₇ Travel to Bell Block to book a 50 tonne crane for the projected lift of wagons.(Roebucks Crane Hire).

³⁵/₁₇ Procure a 6.0 length of 40 x 5 FMS bar for the safety modification whilst coupling up using Kidney Links—will be a hands free operation.

³⁵/₁₇ Prepare working drawings for this job.

³⁵/₁₇ Many thanks to Gisborne Vintage rail for this idea.

Friday 10th.

³⁵/₁₇ 1 Staff Denyse.

³⁵/₁₇ Finished 2 more emergency signs ready for installation

Saturday 11th.

³⁵/₁₇ Seven staff, Denyse, Eileen, Jim Hook, Jim Blyde, Adam Jenkins, Carl McCullough, Mike Zeier

³⁵/₁₇ Tr 407 continued body repairs. Cm & AJ.

³⁵/₁₇ Sleepers replaced in the Sentry Hill area. MZ.

³⁵/₁₇ Kidney link modification carried out. Jim B.

³⁵/₁₇ Wasp nest dealt to. (Fearless Fred aka Mike Zeier!)

³⁵/₁₇ Fitting signage on the train for emergency procedures. DB.

Sunday 12th.

³⁵/₁₇ 3 staff (Meeting) Keith Piper-Chairman, Bill Batten-General Manager, Denyse Bettridge-Patron.

³⁵/₁₇ Binding finished documents. (on site). DB.

³⁵/₁₇ Off site Eileen doing station Laundry.

Monday 13th.

- ³⁵/₁₇ Completed electrical brake override system training manual fully completed & ready for use. (off site) DB.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Met with John Hickman re the hedge bordering the Railway & Waitara Road, It is going to be cut out & a low corrugated iron fence will be put up. Good news on the crossing siting lines.

Tuesday 14th.

- ³⁵/₁₇ 2 staff, Denyse & Graeme R.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Last of the Emergency signs fitted in A 56536.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Sorting documents.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Paperwork.

Wednesday 15th.

- ³⁵/₁₇ 1 staff—Denyse.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Dealing with safety initiatives.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Paperwork.

Thursday 16th.

- ³⁵/₁₇ 1 staff—Denyse.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Productive day off site with positive results.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Visited Howard's Precast Concrete to sort out the underpass unit for a maintenance pit.
- ³⁵/₁₇ While there was a useful session on how to handle these types of items.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Visited Stepping Stones Nursery our neighbour on the station side on the possibility of leasing a 4.0 wide length off them that is waste land to them to allow extra width for the workshop that we badly need.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Looking promising. To be confirmed.
- ³⁵/₁₇ While we were at this. Do you want the track in here if you remove it?
- ³⁵/₁₇ Yes please!
- ³⁵/₁₇ Included with this is a good set of points & about 10 or 12 track sets (just a guess) which was part of Duncan & Davies private siding.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Talked to Mike Z our track manager while his group of gardeners were replanting the roundabout garden in the main street of Waitara. Happy man!

Friday 17th.

- ³⁵/₁₇ 1 staff Denyse.

- ³⁵/₁₇ An E Mail from Stepping Stones Nursery will be sent early next week re the redundant siding & possible land lease.
- ³⁵/₁₇ The hedge along the line was cut back this morning improving site lines at Waitara Road.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Planning photos taken of D & D siding, with some winching of the s bend out of the track & side shifted about one metre will then allow a work shop long enough to hold two bogie vehicles.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Spoke to “Deano” from Whitaker Construction, who are building the height extension on the flood banks whether we can claim the track materials that were unearthed from the wharf sidings into the rear of the old freezing works.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Will be advised next week.

Saturday 18th.

- ³⁵/₁₇ 6 staff Denyse B, Eileen B, Mike Z, Brian J, Carl Mc, Jim B.
- ³⁵/₁₇ 2584 re-fueled.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Track walked from the 4 KM peg to 5 km peg.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Cess drains at the highway bridge to 5 km peg cleared.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Wasps again dealt to at Waitara Road.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Position of maintenance pit & length of building measured out allowing the rail tractor & two bogie wagons inside.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Tidy up in workshop # 7 carried out by Jim B.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Phone call from Paddy Bradford re digger clearing the drains on the mountain side of the line between Kairau Road & the bridge.
- ³⁵/₁₇ FRONZ (Kiwi Rail infrastructure awards) written submission paper written by Keith Piper (Chairman) passed after minor editing on the bridge re build, which was a very good attempt with minimal alteration. Must be those 3 big manuals I wrote Keith. Well done & thanks for helping me out. Denyse.

Sunday 19th.

- ³⁵/₁₇ Last running day for the season.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Good loadings.
- ³⁵/₁₇ 8 staff on duty. Ian H, Denyse, Eileen. Keith H. Gillian H, Darren Turtle, Adam Jenkins, Mike Zeier
- ³⁵/₁₇ Mike & Denyse down to inspect the new deep cess drain by the bridge, good job.

³⁵/₁₇ Ian McCaul (local farmer with grazing rights) will put up an electric fence to keep his yearlings from eating the swamp Cyprus planed down there & keep the cattle out of the drain.

Monday 20th.

³⁵/₁₇ 1 staff ,Denyse.

³⁵/₁₇ Onsite work—paper work, print off train examination sheets, fettle bed plates from the meat works site at Waitara, wash dishes from yesterday & check on the battery charging on A 56536.

³⁵/₁₇ Off site work. Meet with the contractors at Waitara re the track fittings from the old meat works site, pick up the bed plates, and arrange access to the site on Saturday to lift the sleepers & rails.

³⁵/₁₇ Reply to the farmer who had the cess drain down by the bridge cleaned out.

³⁵/₁₇ Reply to Stepping Stones Nursery re the removal of what was Duncan & Davies private siding at Waitara Road for materials for us.

³⁵/₁₇ Meeting with Jim Hadlow, manager at Stepping Stones Nursery at 11.00 am after the site induction of the contractors tomorrow morning.

Tuesday 21st.

³⁵/₁₇ 2 staff.

³⁵/₁₇ Weed spraying Waitara yard.

³⁵/₁₇ Sleepers picked up from Waitara & taken to Waitara Road.

³⁵/₁₇ D&D siding marked out where the new internal access track through the Nursery site is to be dug.

³⁵/₁₇ Plan of action written & sent to our track manager, Mike Zeier.

³⁵/₁₇ Real drastic action taken over the Wasp nest & the Wasps were not happy. Tough. Hopefully that will be the last of them.

Wednesday 22nd.

³⁵/₁₇ 2 staff, Denyse & Graeme R.

³⁵/₁₇ Locomotive run around train ready for the charter tomorrow as there is an early start.

³⁵/₁₇ Pre run preparations carried out.

³⁵/₁₇ Checked out the Wasp situation, only saw one confused Wasp wondering where its buddies had disappeared to.

³⁵/₁₇ Graeme & I went to Cheryl George's coffee shop for a refresher on the way home & ran into some nurses there sitting next to us & got talking & look like setting up a mid winter mystery tour run.

Thursday 23rd.

³⁵/₁₇ 6 staff. Denyse, Eileen, Graeme R, Jim H, Bryan B & Trevor O.

³⁵/₁₇ Bubbles early education double charter due to numbers.

³⁵/₁₇ Trevor O mowing Waitara Rd station lawns.

Friday 24th.

³⁵/₁₇ Staff.

³⁵/₁₇ Off site tasks

³⁵/₁₇ Eileen charter paper work.

³⁵/₁₇ Denyse office work.

³⁵/₁₇ Received early confirmation the the Yc will be arriving at Waitara in two weeks.(Rick Schreuder)

³⁵/₁₇ Paper work mailed yesterday by Paul Heighton re the YC ballast wagon.

³⁵/₁₇ On site tasks.

³⁵/₁₇ Filing documents.

Saturday 25th.

³⁵/₁₇ 4 staff, Denyse, Jim H, Carl M, Mike Z.

³⁵/₁₇ Finish putting signage on the emergency folder rack.

³⁵/₁₇ Scrap recovery.

³⁵/₁₇ 2584 remove & strip defective windscreen wiper motor & blind air line.

³⁵/₁₇ A 24 volt electric wiper will be required, old air unit Kaput.

³⁵/₁₇ Digging out track fittings ready for track dismantling on the old D & D siding.

³⁵/₁₇ Volunteer hours at week 29=6,130

Sunday 26th.

³⁵/₁₇ 3 Staff. Carl, Mike & Denyse.

³⁵/₁₇ Carl sourced a 24 volt wiper motor to fit 2584 at a good price from Repco in New Plymouth.

³⁵/₁₇ Denyse stripped the air operated wind screen wiper motor down to it's consistuent parts, cleaned up & examined it to assess the possibility of restoring for a spare.

³⁵/₁₇ May be able to re machine the port faces as they are badly scored, but could machine up new bushings to fit to remove the large amount of slop. Give it a try.

³⁵/₁₇ Mike & Denyse getting the dis-mantling of the private siding at Stepping Stones Nursery under way.

³⁵/₁₇ The fish plate bolts had to cut off with the rail saw, as the track had been buried in soil, it was not possible to save the track bolts.

³⁵/₁₇ The documentation from Glen Brook was picked up on the exchange deal for a ballast wagon for us & one overhauled CA4 gear box & a CA5 gearbox out of Portland # 11 for Glen Brook.

Monday 27th.

³⁵/₁₇ 1 staff.

³⁵/₁₇ Horrible wet day only suitable for indoor jobs.

³⁵/₁₇ Paper work day, preparing documents ready for filing & designing a windscreen wiper port face restoring tool & producing the drawings.

Tuesday 28th.

³⁵/₁₇ 1 staff.

³⁵/₁₇ Filing of documents into their folders.

³⁵/₁₇ Operating manual for Yc 107 copied & bound. Placed in the mobile tool shed.

Wednesday 29th.

³⁵/₁₇ 1 staff.

³⁵/₁₇ Due to a shallow quake at 8.26 pm last night at magnitude 4.1, the jolt was quite heavy.

³⁵/₁₇ The rock cutting at Kohatu was inspected for any large rocks that may have been dislodged from the cliff face.

³⁵/₁₇ The heavy showers during the night have not scoured the cliff face either.

³⁵/₁₇ Working on Windscreen Wiper manual (off site)

Thursday 30th.

³⁵/₁₇ Working on Windscreen wiper drawings & photo labels. (off site)

Denyse.

30/04/2015.