

## Monthly Report June 2013.

### Saturday 1<sup>st</sup>.

- 10 staff on duty.
- No corrections crew.
- Volunteer hours at week 34-- 8,702
- Just a general tidying up of jobs in preparation for the major job this coming week end. All ready to go.

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>.

- One charter today.
- 8 staff.
- Highly satisfied customers who were attending a family birthday party & came from the northern part of the North Island. Nice people.
- Thanks to all involved & the catering went down a treat.
- Mike Zeier at Waitara preparing track & points for removal to the new storage site.

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- Paper work & documentation.

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>.

- 4 staff on duty.
- Noel & Dave bolting the signal post together ready for installation at Waitara Road.
- Denyse & Ben assembling the work train into it's correct formation ready for Friday, Saturday & Sunday.
- Noel, Ben & I did the measurements for the siding centre line.

### Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>.

- Digger arrived & the operator was taken through the train consist.
- Denyse tidying up little loose ends around our site.

### Friday 7<sup>th</sup>.

- The start of the 3 day site work.
- Prepared & printed off the site safety briefing & work train orders.
- 8.00 am start.
- 12 Staff on duty.

- Prepared the paperwork for the Safety Briefing & work train shunt orders.
- Eileen prepared Morning Tea & a hot lunch, went down a treat. Many thanks from the team.
- Waitara yard was tackled first, shifted two train loads of spoil & emptied at Richmond Road & levelled off so that we can build the next two sets of points down there.
- There is a large amount of digging to do yet & managed to dig a trench & lay one siding.
- A good effort.
- Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Two diggers on the job today, will speed things up somewhat.
- Trevor O (aka the orange roughly) mowed the lawns at Waitara Road.

#### Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>.

- 24 staff on duty.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> siding was laid along with cutting off gas cut rail ends ( from the road crossing sidings to the freezing works) & Rail drilling for the fish plate bolting holes.
- 2 loads of spoil were also taken up to Richmond road & unloaded.
- Morning tea & a hot soup lunch were had at Waitara Road in between the spoil dumping trips.
- Pat Hook made some vegetable soup with pepper & Bacon Hock for added flavour. Went down well. Thanks Pat.
- Volunteer hours at week 35—8,187

#### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>.

- 13 staff on duty.
- Day started real rough & then turned out quite nice.
- Finished off unloading spoil first thing.
- Laid the last two track sets.
- Because the old points were too heavy for the digger to lift they had to be cut in half through the old rotting hardwood sleepers, along with clearing the road metal etc off the rails to lighten them.
- The points blades tie bars were also cut through the middle.
- This was a very slow & painful exercise & took two trips up to Richmond Road to unload.

#### Monday 10<sup>th</sup>.

- Spent 6 hours today completing the job debriefing documents etc & other paper work that was getting behind.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>.

- Finally completed the documentation & filing of same.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>.

- Management meeting, 7.00pm Waitara Road.

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>.

- 14 staff on duty.
- Laying the frog unit of the points at Waitara Road lining up & bolting in.
- Continued earthworks.
- A very large Bacon & Egg pie by Eileen fed the troops!
- Volunteer hours at week 36—8,543

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>.

- Horrible wet day. Not pleasant.
- 6 staff on duty.
- Laying the first set of track for the new siding.
- Earthworks.
- Morning tea was chocolate chippies, Muffins from Bill & Scones from Les.
- The Curried sausage stew by Eileen went down a treat!!

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>.

- NZTA assessment sent to be verified & returned to NZTA to be signed off for the auditor.
- Mike Z & I sorted out the small details of the next step with the siding build & got things prepared.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>.

- Doing Paperwork.
- Had a ring from Graeme Hudson, Rail Advisor from the NZTA sorting out the impending self audit & my personal assessment. 10.08/2013.
- This is to help Mike Lehrke come to grips with the self auditing procedures.

Friday 21<sup>st</sup>.

- 5 staff on duty.

- Shortest day, a big drop of snow on the mountain & ranges, beautiful fine day & one stunning sunset.
- More track sets laid at Waitara road along with the continuing earth works.
- The lunch today was pretty rustic! Do it your self job!
- Baked beans, fried? Eggs & bacon. Well it got eaten!

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- 12 staff on duty.
- A BBQ for lunch put on by Eileen
- Volunteer hours at week 37---8,767
- A nice fine day.
- The last track sets were fitted along with the earthworks.
- The points were levelled & packed.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- 4 staff.
- Good weather.
- Cruised along finishing the bolting up. Earthworks edges tidied up & fitted one more track set.
- Adam dropped off some yummy biscuits for afternoon tea which are not good for diabetics but sin today & repent tomorrow. Golly the thick chocolate ones were ==well – 2 eaten each. Thanks Adam.

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>.

- 2 staff. Mike Zeier & Denyse.
- Weed spraying.
- Repairing points locks.
- Put in a wheel set storage track.

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>.

- 2 staff Ben Sewell & Denyse.
- Shunted the spoil wagons into the loop.
- Fitted the shut off cock into the water main extension.
- Fixed the 200 metre main extension to the boundary fence with cable ties.
- Pruned the hedge row along the new siding.

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>.

- Catching up with the pile of paper work.

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>.

- 15 staff on duty.
- 5 visitors ( Sponsors of materials)
- Volunteer hours at week 38—8,964
- Defective or missing sleepers fitted into the new siding at Waitara Road with recycled sleepers.
- The Contractor arrived & bored the hole 3.0 deep up by the gate at Waitara Road. Many thanks for that.( Work donated)
- Garry dug a new fire pit.
- The spare wheel sets were placed onto a new rack so that the points lever for the new siding can be fitted.
- Noel & Keith fitted the signal post with the help of Garry & his big digger.
- The new water main had the last 100 metres fitted & now turned on.
- Mike Zeier we will miss you while you are in the UK for 3 months. Go well buddy. As usual worked hard to get most of the final details on the new siding done.
- Bill & Carl have secured the spare bogies down on the spare Nak.
- To all our staff that turned up to dig in over this month to get two sidings at Waitara laid & the one at Waitara Road along with the points it was a HUGE effort which you all can be proud of. Well done.
- To Garry Loveridge who also worked right through the month with both of his diggers, without this type of freely given assistance it would no have happened. We know you enjoyed the food!
- To all our loyal staff who also laboured hard also a big thank you for your input into this job. Feel proud guys it was a big learning curve & new skills acquired.
- The ladies who kept the morale up with the great hot meals & “industrial” breaks was really appreciated.
- A visit by Garry Dunlop & some of his family was welcome. Garry donated a large amount of Corrugated Iron. We welcome any of our sponsors to call in & see HOW YOUR HELP is making a difference. Meet our staff, always a cuppa on tap & most of all a friendly welcome.

Denyse Bettridge,

Operations Manager.

30/06/2013.