



Bay of Islands Vintage Railway

102 Gillies Street, Kawakawa. NZ

(Risking Nothing But Success)

Website: www.bayofislandsvintagerailway.org.nz

Email : mikethsteam@hotmail.com

Postal: P.O. Box 142, Kawakawa

Ph: (09) 404-0684

Mobile: 021-171-2697

(Editor Johnson Davis Ph (09) 404-0636; email kruza@xtra.co.nz)



We Will Remember them....



Tauranga 19th March 2011.. A red letter and Historic Day for the Bay of Islands Vintage Railway when they were announced as the National Supreme Winner of the 2010 Trust Power Community Awards for Volunteers (People Power). (Above L-R) Trustpower Chairman , Bruce Harker, BOIVRT Chairperson Alison Lemon, Far North Mayor, Wayne Brown, Trust Power CEO Vince Hawksworth, and BOIVRT Trustee Frank Leadley.



YES.. WE CAN...

....

YES WE WILL.....



The National Trophy



... the trophy and certificate return to Kawakawa

“On Track to Award Success. “ (Frank Leadley)

What a journey it has been! A journey that began on 13th September 2010 and ended on 19th March 2011. But a lot happened before and after those two dates, and the effects of the winning the award will be with us for quite a while yet.

Back on the 13th March Alison Lemon and I attended the Far North District TrustPower presentations, not at all sure what it was all about. The Vintage Railway Trust had been nominated for the Far North Awards by the Hundertwasser Trust, and we did not think we had won any award as we were not named as a winner in any of the categories. But then came the big surprise when we were announced as the winner of the Supreme Award for the Far North. It was very exciting, but it was just the start of an even bigger journey.

By winning the 2010 TrustPower Far North District Supreme Award we now had to prepare to take on the other 24 district Supreme Winners at the event to be held in Tauranga over the weekend of 18 – 20 March. This involved three components.

The first was the preparation and submitting by 17 December of a 1,000 word summary of the Vintage Railway’s achievements, which needed to cover :

- An overview and history of the organisation
- Our Key Objectives
- Details of our primary sources of funding
- Summary of our projects and activities
- Details of our volunteers involvement, including numbers of volunteers and hours worked
- Results achieved and benefits to the region.

This task fell to me, and it was quite a major exercise getting all the above into 1,000 words, but it was completed and posted off with a couple of days to spare.

Then came the second and much bigger task, which was to prepare an 8 minute audio visual presentation for the National Award event to be held in Tauranga. I lost count of the amount of time this took, and I would often get up in the middle of the night to add or delete something which was keeping me awake. Getting all our achievements and supporting photographs into 8 minutes was a daunting task, as we had to cover 5 criteria:

- Volunteer involvement, commitment and passion
- Utilisation of resources and sustainability
- Initiative and creativity, and capacity to overcome obstacles
- Effectiveness of the activities and achievement of objectives
- Impact on the district and the community.

I wrote and re-wrote the script and selected most of the photos, but could not possibly have managed the task without the huge support and technical skills of Dave Mullan who did all the entering of the photos, edited the script, and gave a great deal of sound advice. Dave was superb. We finished up with 100 pictures/maps/images, and the aim of having so many was to create a slick presentation that would tell the story but which was also dynamic and exciting and generated a sense of action and passion. And we sought to include some humour to ensure we held the audience’s attention.

All districts had to include the Mayor or Deputy Mayor and two representatives of the organisation. Our Mayor Wayne Brown was dressed as the Guard, Trust Chairperson Alison was dressed as the Train Driver, and as the one who shovelled the money into the system I was dressed as the Fireman.

TrustPower staged a magnificent event with superb organisation and an excellent programme – too much to go into in this Newsletter. They covered all costs of transport, accommodation, meals, and side trips over the two and a half days.

The judging itself was an interesting process. There were 25 districts there and the judging was done by two groups. One group comprised all the delegates from the 25 districts and all were involved in marking the presentations (apart from their own) giving a mark out of 10 in each of the 5 criteria above. These votes counted for 50% of the total. The other 50% came from a panel of 10 judges including TarianaTureia, Jim Mora, and the Editor of North and South Magazine, who also took the 1,000 word summary into account.

Our presentation was number 21 out of the 25, so to be sure that we got full attention Mayor Wayne Brown started our presentation with a loud blast of his whistle into the microphone. And then we were into it, and we felt that all our practice and effort had been worthwhile, but it was still a nervous wait during the Awards Dinner in the evening leading up to the announcement.

When the announcements came it was for the Runner Up to be announced first – John’s Kitchen from Blenheim. The announcement that Bay Of Islands Vintage Railway Trust had won the TrustPower National Supreme Award was greeted with a huge roar of approval and a spontaneous standing ovation. It was quite obviously a very popular win, and mighty exciting!

The Award is the result of a huge effort by many people, and recognises the very significant impact on Kawakawa in particular and the Far North in general. It is now up to us to leverage off the Award and to ensure the impetus it has provided is utilised to the very best effect.



From this ...(left) ... to this.... (right) in one week



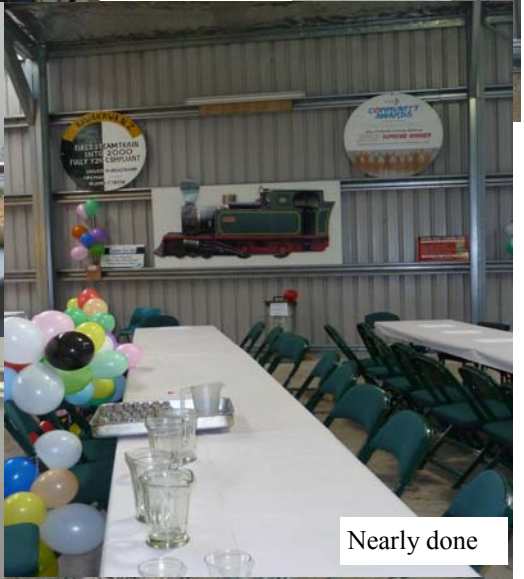
The rolling stock gets moved out



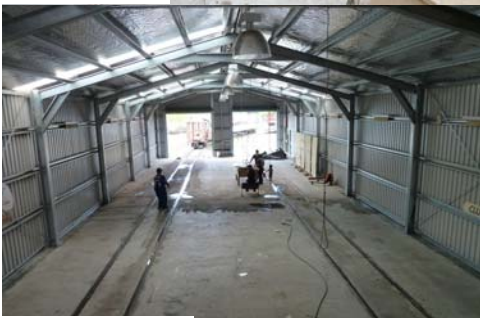
The "Goodies"



One to Go



Nearly done



Give it a wash



A room with a view

(top) The decorating begins: Terri and Pete Glithro, Kate Moroney and Shirley Bradshaw do all the "puffing"
(Middle) Margaret Wikaire preparing the salads.
(Above) Balloon helpers take time out, Kayla Wikaire-MacKay Erana Brown and Rachael Rupapera



Bring it on..



(Left) The Crew Mike Bradshaw (Driver/Fireman) Howard Lunn (Guard) Dave Mowat (Fireman/Driver)
 (Right) Gabriel steams into town .



(Photos courtesy Peter de Graaf)
 Enjoying the celebration ride are :



(left) Mayor Brown enjoying the ride through town)
 (Lower left) Wahanui Bray 1.y.o. Pera Bray, Harmony Paraha and volunteer Bob Glen.



(Above Graeme Purches (Trust Power) and volunteer stalwart Denis Hewitt on Long bridge
 (Above Right) Denis provides an onboard commentary.
 (Right) Gabriel returns to the station.



(Left) Vanessa Leadley and Judith Burling have a quiet chat after the train ride . Adding the international flavor and all the way from Canada is Wayne Ludwig . Actually Wayne is a BOI Rotarian; a keen supporter of the BOI Vintage Railway and who is also very interested in community work



The V.I.P's and Special Guests

(L-R) Tracey Dalton (FNDC) Toni (The Mayor's Boss) Mayor Wayne Brown Jenny and Graeme Purches (Trust Power) Adrienne and Wallie Tichener, Vanessa Leadley



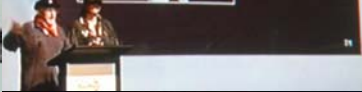
Scenes from The DVD Presentation Tauranga 19 March The Guard Mayor Brown calls All Aboard (and The light goes on...)



The journey to Taumarere



"The blighter hasn't replied"



Our History



An Acknowledgment and a Big thank you to some of our Sponsors



107,210 hours ... A Great Big thanks to our Volunteers



The presentation ends with our team steaming off in style Choo, Choo



Congratulations and well done from Mayor Brown



Kawakawa Business Assoc Secretary, Kate Moroney ,speaks of the value of the Railway to the economic growth of Kawakawa , the Bay of Islands and Far North.



MP John Carter (and trustee) In full flight or is it "with a head of steam



Graeme Purches (Trust Power) happily presents the Awards in Kawakawa



(Above) Pastor Jim Prime blesses the food. (Below) BOIW CB member Harko Brown and family enjoying the occasion.



(Above and below) The lovely ladies of Bella Arcapella entertain the crowd.



(Below) The Windjammers entertain.





Cheers and Bottoms Up
(Left) Also celebrating 132 years in Kawakawa on the 16th April was that grand old lady the Star Hotel. Raising their glasses and wishing the community all the best are mine hosts, Mainlanders from the deep South, Frank and Eleanor Gardiner. Joining in the celebrations is local lad Dean Fraser.



Thank You

On behalf of the Bay of Islands Vintage Railway may I thank you one and all who over the last decade have contributed generously and tirelessly to help us get to where we are today. It was only through your goodwill help and efforts that the BOI Vintage Railway Trust was able to win this National prestigious Award and thus gain national recognition of a job well done. **This is your Award**

Sure the journey is not over as we have yet completed the journey to Opuia but we know that with your continued support and the support of others to come; this will be achieved. Why? The answer is simple. We have to. We have a responsibility to ensure that the first railway line built in the North Island of NZ is maintained and preserved for generations to come.

I am not going to attempt to name you all who are deserving of recognition as sure as hell I will miss some, as regrettably, we did with our invitations. Our sincerest apologies to those we omitted to send special invitations to which I assure you was simply due to an oversight on our part. A special apology goes to the St Johns Ambulance in Kawakawa.

A special thank you also to all the workers who helped prepare for the occasion and cleaned up and to those who provided all the tables, chairs spits etc. J. Davis (Editor)



Puff n Pull 22nd May

Will our local Boys in Blue be able to defend the title they won last year or will the Mighty Taniwha be out to claim bragging rights and have our local heroes singing the "Blues". Put this date in your diary now and come and join in the fun and see just who is the best "Blues" team in town



Situations Vacant

Through all the joys of the celebrations the BOIVRT have been hit with a reality check. We are desperately short of volunteers to help run the train especially Gabriel as we are short of fireman. Also in short supply are guards, Can you help please.

It would be a real shame that in the event we do not get additional volunteers to help with these tasks we may have to consider a reduced timetable.

If you can help, and full training will be provided, please, please contact Mike Bradshaw at the station Ph (09) 404-0684 or 021-171-2697

"On You Bike" Not the words one would want to hear from your Mayor. However this time he genuinely means it and it is for a great cause. Mayor Brown invites you to join him in the Mayoral Challenge Cycleway event to be held on the 29th May.

This is a historical event as it is the opening of the first stage (Okaihau to Kaikohe) of the Twin Coast Cycle way which will be from the Bay of Islands to the Hokianga (Horeke). So a great event and a great chance to see the northern most point in NZ that the railways use to run to.

The BOI Vintage Railway will of course be a key player in the success of this leg of the National Cycleway



..... And for the final word; actually words are not needed as the smiles say it all.....
Thank you team for a job well done