

Bay of Islands Vintage Railway

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STEAM 7'S—SPECIAL EDITION

When Rugby and a steam train get together what do you get?

The 17th September saw what is hoped will become an Annual Event for Bay of Islands Rugby. This was the Steam 7's : a 7-A-side Rugby tournament held at the United-Kawakawa Rugby Grounds at Taumarere. This inaugural tournament was a local event introduced to help celebrate NZ hosting the 2011 Rugby World Cup and was a combined effort made up of a committee representing the North Auckland Rugby Referee's Association, United-Kawakawa R.F.C; Kawakawa Business Association and the BOI Vintage Railway. A unique feature of the event was that all spectators were required to park in Kawakawa and travel by steam train to the rugby grounds.

The event was intended to be limited to 16 teams but, disappointingly after being advised 2 weeks before the event that there were 15 teams entered on the day ,only 7 teams played. This meant that the expected numbers of supporters etc were well down and from a financial point of view the tournament was not a success. However for those that turned up on the day it was a most enjoyable day with some great games of 7-A-side rugby played. Our congratulations go to the tournament winners , Hikurangi Winners of the Championship Cup and also Whangarei Old Boys who won the Steam 7 Trophy and the Otamatea Hawks winners of the Plate event.

The organisers express their grateful thanks to the teams from Hikurangi, Whangarei Old Boys, Wellsford, Otamatea, Moerewa, Muriwhenua and Waipu that took part and the small crowd who turned up. A special thanks goes to the organizing committee and in particular Kate Moroney the Chair and Kyal Collins of the NARU Referee's Assoc. Thank you also to all the volunteers from all the organizing committee who gave of their time, which is greatly appreciated and of course the St Johns Ambulance Staff . Special thanks to the W. B. Cherrington family who donated the Championship Cup for the winners and Mike Bradshaw for all the work he did in producing the trophies for the trophy, bowl and plate winners.

Finally a great big thank you to the tournament sponsors Far North Holdings Ltd and their CEO Malcolm Nicholson who presented the prizes.

Below. (left) Gabriel all steamed up and ready to go and (right) Freddie does her bit to reduce the running time as he hauls the train back from Taumarere for the next run



Skipper Troy Rate making his victory speech on behalf of the Championship winners ; the Red & Blacks of Hikurangi



Old Boys Skipper Troy Gilbert with the Steam 7 trophy



Malcolm Nicolson,CEO FNHL presents the Plate trophy to the Otamatea Skipper—Iosefo England



Photo courtesy Jenny Atkins



Jenny Atkins

Operation Manager's Report—September 2011

The steam engine is running very well. Minor adjustments were done to bearings and glands. The air valve was leaking so new O'rings were fitted.

The new coal is very good. So far we have used 16 tons so have only 9 tons left, enough for 18 days running. With school holidays coming up on October 10th, plus two steam specials, means that we will need more coal after 20 November. Anymore steam special bookings will bring back the date we run out of coal.

Price diesel suffered a major gearbox failure. The transmission was taken out and refitted four times before everything seemed to be OK. Then, on Steam 7's day, an oil leak developed and at time of writing, is still being worked on.

The move to change the fluid flywheel to use hydraulic oil instead of diesel is fine in theory but, as we found out the hard way, when the hose leaked and we ran out of oil from the small tank, on the last but one trip, the steam engine had to pull a dead diesel as well as the train.

The steam 7's went well from an operational point of view but the success from an accountant's point of view will be the subject of debate, I am sure.

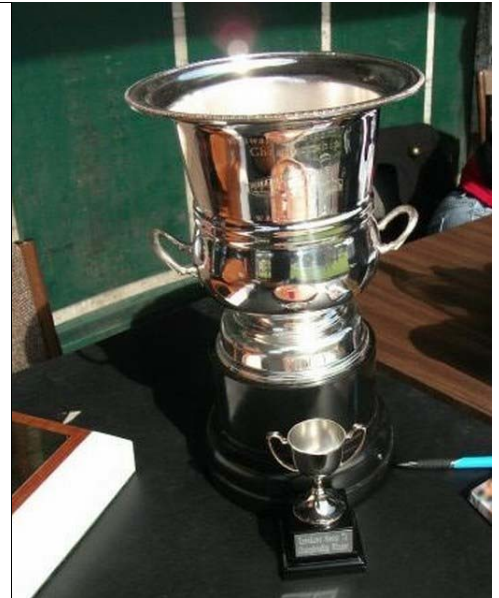
Kawakawa Station is starting to look good as a result of some T.L.C. from the carriage repair crew. New weather boards, repairs to window frames and repainting the platform edge made an enormous difference. Gabriel Club funding will be used to purchase paint which Bay of Islands Rotarians and others will apply before the summer season descends upon us.

The rebuilt roofed open car will be in service this summer season also. As it is 3 – 5 metres longer than our currently used open car our runaround loop at Taumarere is too short! We will have to attend to this.

We have a few jobs needing to be done. One is to build two BBQ's at Taumarere. We have all the materials, just need the labour. Another job is to paint the engine shed roof as since being built in the mid 1980's, there have been 3 extensions so the roof is a bit patchy. Also the turntable needs a coat of paint.

Our bridge gang have completed their examination of Bridge 9 and are putting together a very comprehensive plan of action and detailed costings so we will soon know how we are to progress. As our train to Opuia is an integral part of the Northland Cycle Trail progress on Bridge 9, the remaining 3 bridges and 7 km's of track will be of national importance.

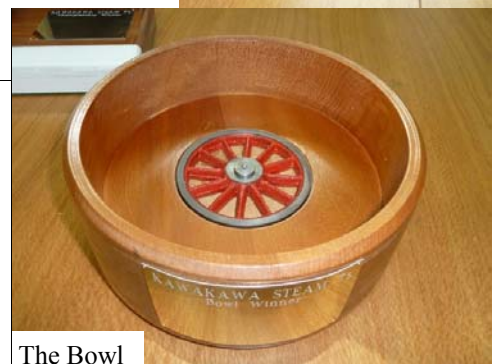
Mike Bradshaw



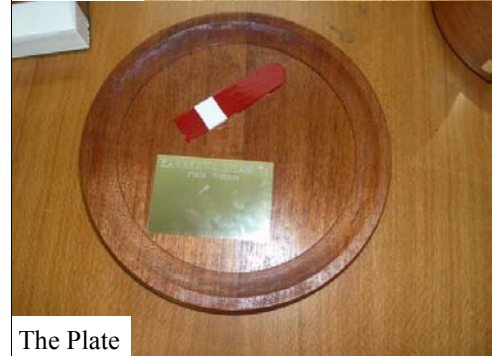
(above) The Championship Cup donated by Bill Cherrington in memory of his father W.B. Cherrington
(below) The magnificent trophies all made by our Operations. Manager Mike Bradshaw. They all reflect a railway theme befitting the "Steam 7's tournament"



The Trophy



The Bowl



The Plate



Railway Station Café

Welcome to new Café proprietor Steve McMillan. Steve (the bearded one) with his staff show off the new look Railway Station Café.

L-R Nikita Halliday
Emily Apiata
Aleyse Emirali
Bronwyn Clark
Andrea Farmer
Nancy Te Wake (Manager)

One of the attractions for the Café for Steve is that it will be at the station where the cyclist will begin the cycling part of the Coast to Coast Cycleway—*Pou Herenga Tai*



Theresa Nicolson decorating the shop car, She did such a brilliant job she could well be the interior decorating consultant for FNHL? (I reckon) . Grateful thanks Theresa



"Beware the gatekeepers"- Frank Leadley and Kate Moroney man the gates at Taumarere and ... YES; you guys have " Got it "

Thanks to our volunteers (L-R) Viv Campbell, Shirley, Bradshaw, Grainger Brown, Denis Hewitt, Howard Lunn, Graeme Winterbourn, Dave Mowat , Mike Bradshaw (the oil is for Gabriel not the coffee) (inset) Johnson Davis (photographer)



Dave and Viv wait for the crowd .



Hazel Brown and Annie Lunn



“Konnichiwa” - Our first Japanese visitors were Fujita Eika and her son Sora from Auckland



Daniel and Chevy Taylor and family enjoyed the occasion made more enjoyable when they won the rugby ball signed by the “Mighty Taniwha” team



Photo courtesy—Jenny Atkins



Staunch United-Kawakawa supporter and local identity May Mackie checks out the “goodies” in the shop car. May is a volunteer at the St Johns Op shop



Above. (left) Mine host from the Star Hotel Frank Gardiner entertains Geof McDonald, Town and Country Editor, ably assisted by bar-lady Kirsty Bryant and also local Opai Heta enjoys the hospitality. (middle) The kids enjoy a game of softball and (right) Gabriel unloads her passengers at the specially built platform.

.....And yes there definitely was some Rugby..

Photo –courtesy Peter de Graf



Championship Winners— Hikurangi



Photo –courtesy Peter de Graf



Otamatea Hawks Winners of the Seven's Plate



Photo-courtesy Peter de Graf

Whangarei Old Boys (they don't look that old to me and seems they can't count) winners of the Seven's Trophy





Congratulations to Trustee Grainger Brown for his Award from the NZ Historic Places Trust for his Certificate for Meritorious Service. Grainger became a member in 1978.

(Dedicated to Mike Bradshaw , former Manager of the Ffestiniog Railways Boston Lodge Engineering workshops . With thanks for a friendship)

My Captain

We know that soon you will have to go
Across the sea far away
How I wish my heart to follow you
In these words I write today
Where I find it hard to even try
And give my feelings their due
So precious the years that flew on by
Since first you managed our crew.

I'll stand, when last to shake your hand
Then probably start to cry
But those tears will mean no parting Mike
For I never will say goodbye
You know how I love a verse or two
This dearest of thoughts to send
I am privileged to have sailed with you
My Captain, mentor and friend.

Stephen Paul, Portmadog, Wales

Taken from the Scotland, Wales and Northland Ireland edition a collection of poems entitled

"The Thought That Counts"

Published by United Press 2006

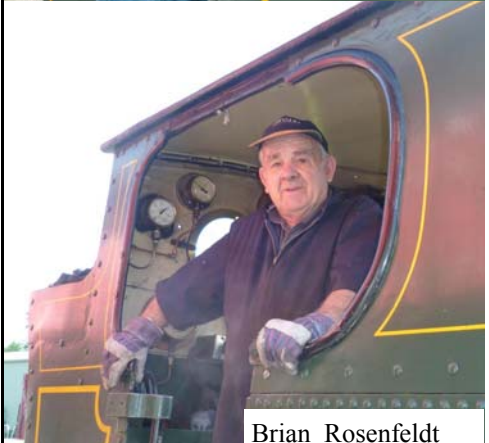
Changes at the Trust

Big thanks to Alison Lemon who has stepped down as Chairperson . Alison has taken us through some huge changes and seen major growth in our Operations. Alison remains as Trustee and the new Chairperson is yours truly.
Also standing down after long and sterling service as a Trustee is the Hon John Carter who is of course enjoying a stint as NZ High Commissioner in Rarotonga . Frank will badly miss his fellow-in-arms where they shared some very memorable times at our Dinner Gala and auctions.
Thanks also to Peter Hirtzel who has resigned. Peter has now bought a mobile home and intends to spend some relaxing time touring

On behalf of all the Trustees I extend our grateful thanks to you all for your sterling services and support and extend our welcome new Trustees Kate Moroney and Grainger Brown

J. Davis Editor

Welcome Aboard and great to have you here



School Holiday Promotion

KIDS Take your parents for a ride during the October School Holiday

Kids will travel free if accompanied by a parent or Grand-parent

Maximum 3 kids per adult.

Steam 7 Raffle Winners

RWC Rugby Ball Sporting Legends
Ticket 227 Des
"Taniwha" Rugby Ball
Ticket No 082—Taylor Boys
Thank you all for your Support



Room with a view. Yes, the old boarded up window has now been restored . Grateful thanks to Garth Matterson for all his work

BAY OF ISLANDS VINTAGE RAILWAY TRUST PRESENTS ITS 7TH ANNUAL

Gala Dinner & Auction

Hosted by Pete Gentil 

Waitangi Golf Club
Friday 14th October, 7pm
Tickets \$50, Buffet Dinner

AVAILABLE FROM
Trainspotters Café, Kawakawa * Paper Plus, Kerikeri * Russell Bookshop * Paihia Pharmacy * Or any of the Trustees
Contact Viv Campbell 021 328 355 for more information



www.bayofislandsvintagerailway.org.nz

Gala Dinner & Auction 2011

Great venue, Great food , Great Cause , Great People

Come One , Come All.. (woops sorry forgot) the tickets are limited to 100 so get in early for this wonderful occasion and fundraiser.

Tickets also available from trustees

Volunteers Wanted

Yes we are still very short of volunteers so anyone wishing to help out will be most welcome , guards, fireman, gardeners, carpenters, painters etc jobs for everyone