

Federation of Rail Organisations of New Zealand

Grant Craig, President



About me

NZ Railway, NZ Rail, and Tranzrail - 1979 to 1999:

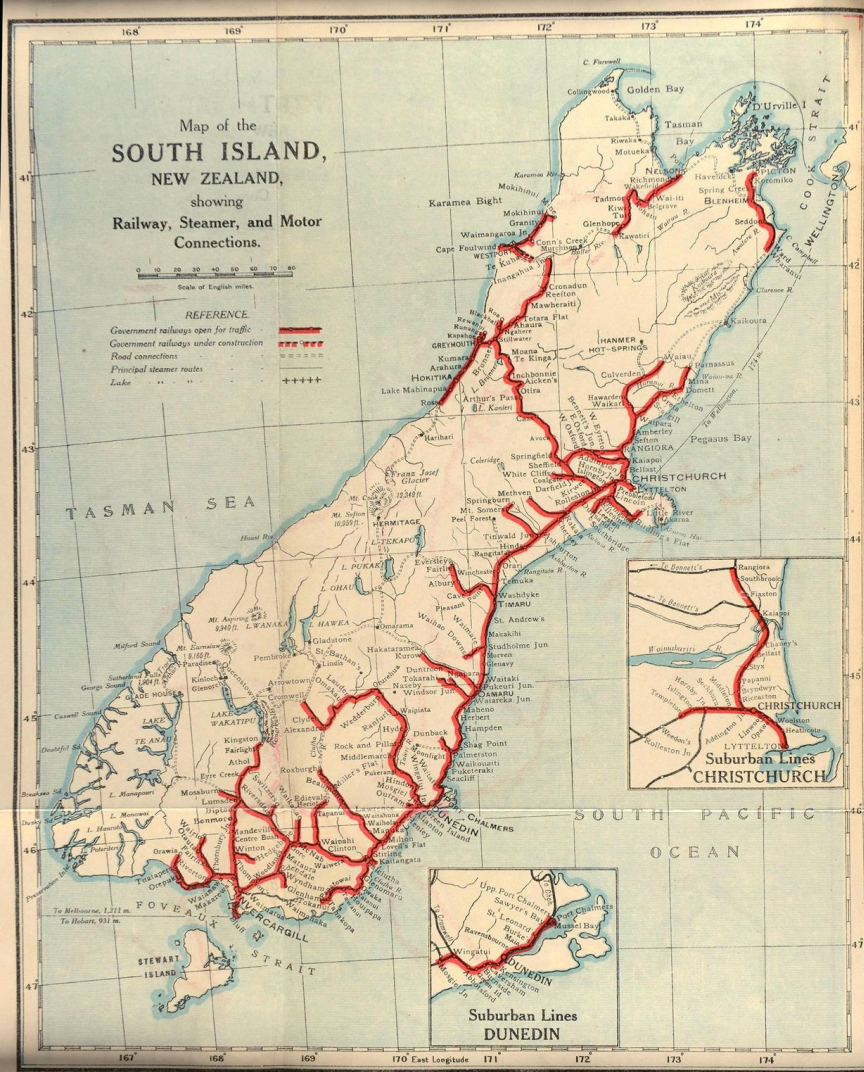
- Clerical Cadet
- Clerk
- Section Officer
- Stationmaster
- Train Controller
- Traction Control Officer
- Network Planning Officer

Dunedin Railways - 1999-2021:

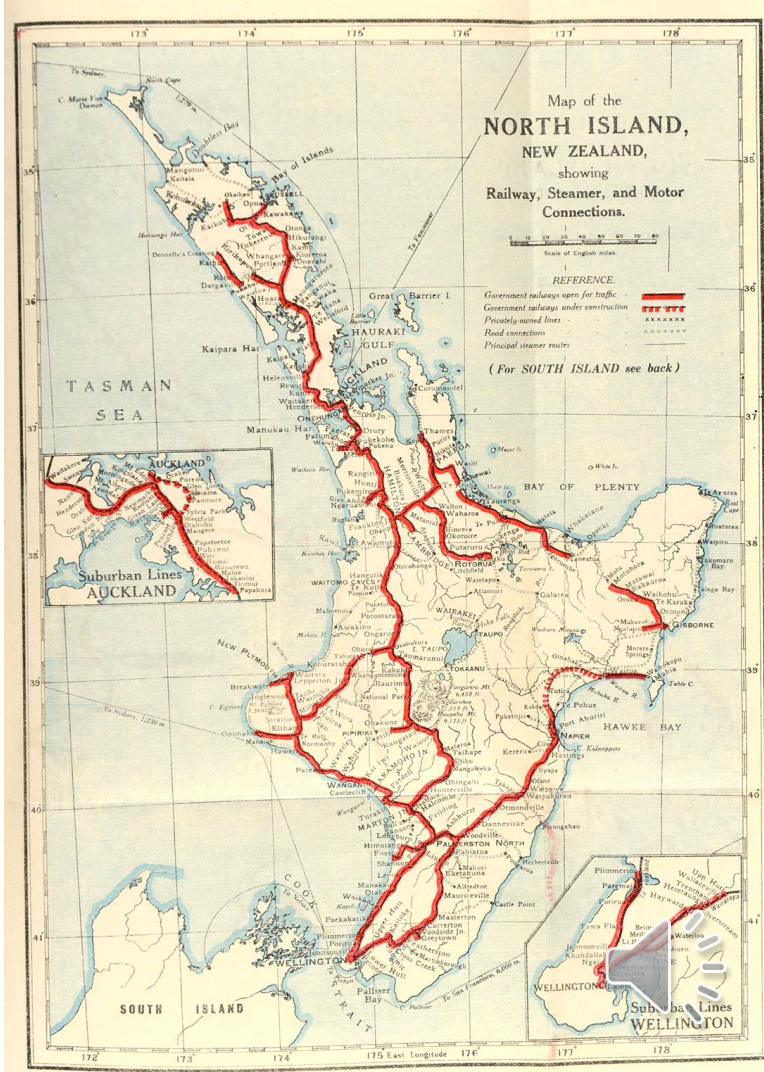
- Operations Manager

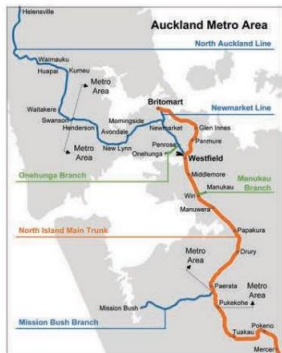
FRONZ President 2011 to - present



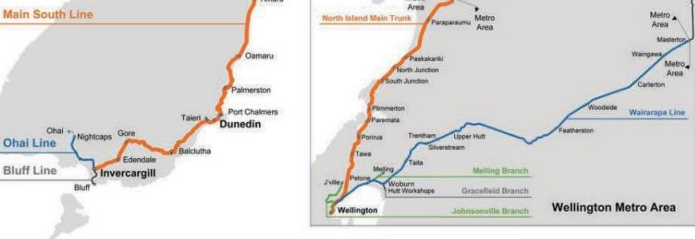


The network
in its
heyday...





Marton – New Plymouth Line



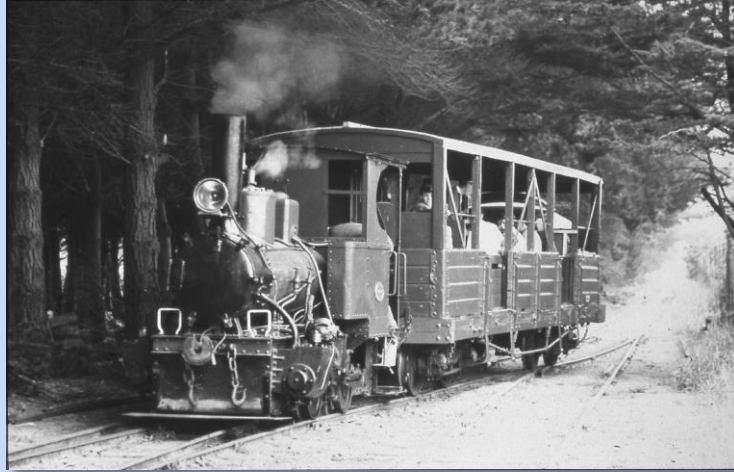
And what it is now:
Freight services
verses
passenger services

Aotearoa New Zealand's Long-distance Passenger Rail Services

Thomas Le Bas, 2018



One railway to start them all



In Festival Week 1963 the Ocean Beach Railway opened for the public and in doing so was the first operating preservation railway in New Zealand.



In the decades since, dozens of groups have launched around the country.

Many use original railway buildings and stations, or run with locomotives and rolling stock that was part of the New Zealand Railways network.

All our members face common challenges:

- Finding skilled volunteers who know how to fix antiquated machines
- Getting passengers through the gates
- Keeping up to date with legislation and regulator requirements
- Rising costs
- A global move away from the fossil fuels that locomotives need to run
- Adapting in a constantly changing world.



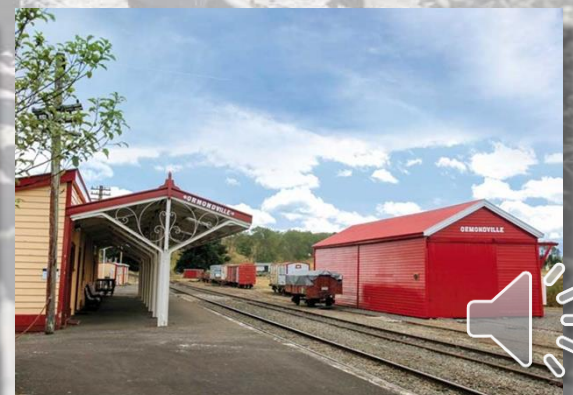
FRONZ first met in 1972 to help navigate challenges, but in the 70s, the issues were a bit different!

They included getting access to the mainline after the Government's "ban on steam", securing carriages to run excursions with, setting up training and having a united voice.

Twelve organisations were the founding members of FRONZ, now, more than 70 groups make up the Federation.



Our membership



Tramways

- 2 street tram operators
- 6 street tramway museums





Mainline operators

- Three running steam excursions
- One running railcars
- Two running diesel locomotives
- One running a mix of steam and diesel





Heritage operators

Scattered around the country, there are plenty of heritage groups to see.

They run railcars, steam locomotives, diesel engines, and have a number of rare and unique items of rolling stock.





Other operators and organisations:

- Tourism railway operators
- Rail carts
- Heritage precincts
- Service providers
- Vehicle owners
- Museums



We're here to help...

- Not every heritage operator is a member of FRONZ, but a majority are
- Our 70+ members are scattered across New Zealand, and Rarotonga and Australia
- FRONZ works between groups and key agencies such as KiwiRail, or Waka Kotahi - the rail regulator. We work to make sure our members' voices are heard
- FRONZ does the heavy lifting on behalf of groups
- Stakeholders like KiwiRail have one point of contact
- We fund this work through levies on Mainline Operators, subscriptions, and issuing Public Liability Insurance



INDUSTRY
STANDARDS
& TRAINING

INDUSTRY
LEADER

ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

CONTRACTS
NEGOTIATION
&
PURCHASING

ANNUAL
AWARDS

LOCAL
ISSUES
& SITE VISITS

VOLUNTEER
RECRUITMENT



EXECUTIVE
OFFICER

TECHNICAL
PAPERS

ACCESS TO
EXPERT
PRACTITIONERS

ADVOCACY &
DISPUTES
RESOLUTION

MONITORING
LEGISLATION &
BUREAUCRACY

FUNDING
REVIEW &
SUPPORT

COMMUNIKES,
NETWORKING,
AFFILIATION



The FRONZ Executive

Prior to COVID, the Executive would meet in person about four times a year, but now we meet on a monthly basis, through Zoom.

General topics cover:

- Engagement with Government
- Issues facing members
- Climate change
- Training
- Delivering workshops for member groups

Pictured here is our planning meeting in August when we were setting out the work for the year Ahead.



The Executive is elected at the annual conference, which alternates between the North and South Island.





ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DELEGATES
PLEASE SIGN ATTENDANCE REGISTER

2019 GOLDFIELDS CONFERENCE



Award-winning restored locomotive joins Waihi's Goldfields Railway fleet

Bay of Plenty Times
By Rebecca Mauger

25 Jun, 2019 09:51 AM · 3 mins to read

Save Share



The award winning locomotive at Goldfields Railway.

GOLDFIELDS Railway has a shiny new, award-winning locomotive to join its fleet.

Pleasant Point volunteers honoured with national award at national conference



Bryan, were awarded the Paul Heighton Memorial Award for Excellence in the Railways of New Zealand (FRONZ) award ceremony held at Pleasant Point.

Glenbrook Vintage Railway recognised for innovation and safety

Natalie Polley · 13:51, Jun 13 2019

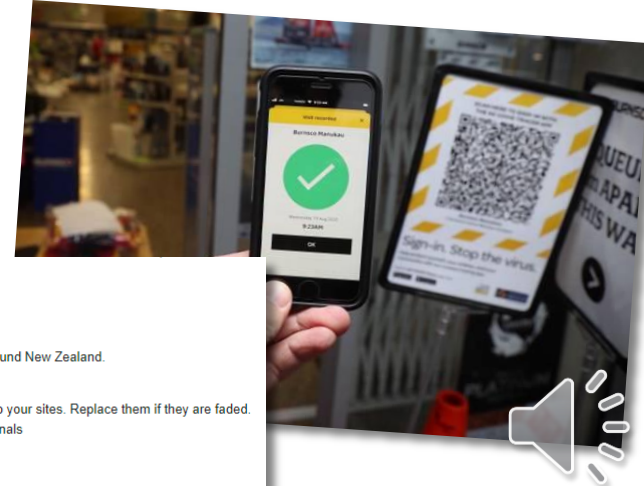


The BIG challenges...



COVID

- Executive kept in touch with groups, and communicated advice to them
- Payment plan for members struggling to pay FRONZ fees
- Sent groups details on getting financial help from Government
- Conference was cancelled and during the height of the pandemic, the Exec met twice a month in



Kia ora FRONZ members. What an afternoon...

As you will have seen, there has been a small cluster of cases in Auckland. The Government has announced that New Zealand outside of Auckland will move to COVID-19 Alert Level 2 settings at 11:59 PM tonight, 14 February. That will stay in place at least until 11:59 PM on Wednesday the 18th of February – though it may be extended as required. Information is available here: [Unite against COVID-19](#).

At the same time, Auckland will move to Level 3.

No matter where you are, if you have cold, flu or COVID-19 symptoms call your doctor or Healthline and get advice so immediately.

For groups outside Auckland, please remember there is now a limit on gatherings - 100 people. While you must use procedures on heritage transport. It is up to you to decide if your passengers have to wear masks or not. But in either public and members.

In Level 2, museums can open if they comply with public health measures and ensure 1 metre physical distancing

Dear FRONZ members,

Today there are 3 new community cases of COVID-19 that have been identified in South Auckland.

While the Government is kicking into gear and responding, as expected, this is a timely reminder for all groups around New Zealand.

- Encourage your members to stay home if they feel unwell
- Ensure QR codes for the Covid tracer app are visible and in a prominent location for public and visitors to your sites. Replace them if they are faded.
- Consider your cleaning practices around the likes of sanitiser and high-contact points like EFTPOS terminals

Please keep an eye on mainstream media or the [Ministry of Health's website](#) for more information.

Keep up the good work,

Network access

- KiwiRail has removed some key infrastructure such as triangles, turntables and platforms
- FRONZ has been working with NZTA, KiwiRail to improve relationships and have our members' needs considered
- Network operators have to meet a higher bar now, which FRONZ endorses



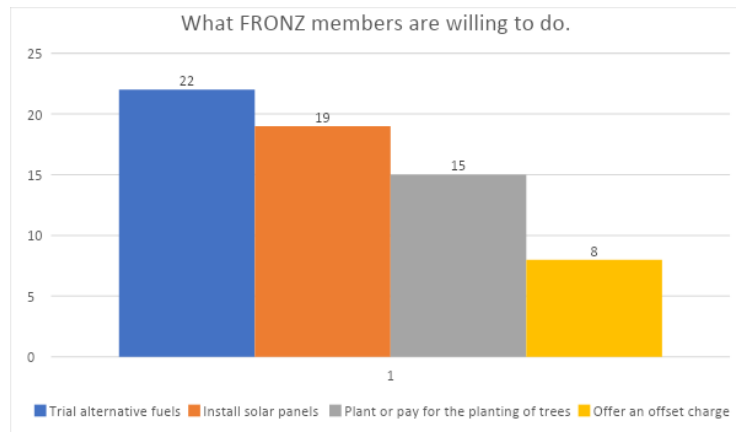
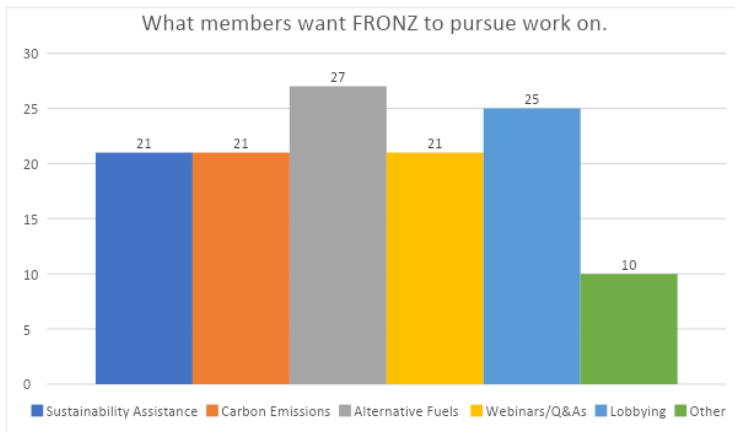
Getting more people involved!

- Lots of retirees, not many young people
- Skilled members can be hard to find
- FRONZ is producing standard manuals for the likes of track work, so members have a fit-for-purpose guide
- RAIL, and the HTC provide training and technical advice for groups that request it
- More work needs to be done



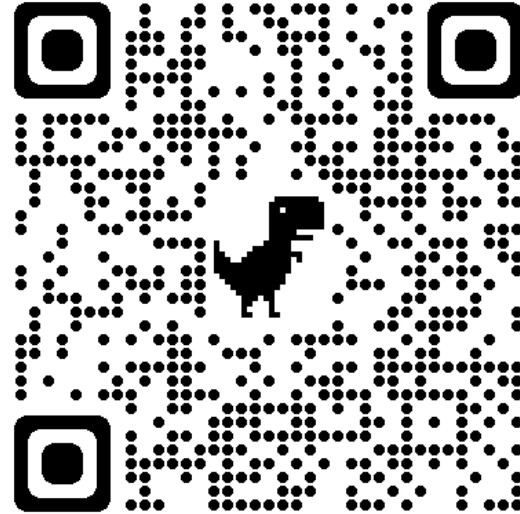
Climate change

- FRONZ members have identified climate change and related legislation as the biggest risk to their operations
- We have been surveying member/organising Zoom meetings with groups
- Investigating alternative fuels, and cleaner energy such as solar.
- Urging members to engage with local government, and make submissions



See for yourself:

Visit this link to watch a video of FRONZ member organisations in action.



Thank you for your time...



DRIFTING

Now available for trains.

