

Mr Chris Martin
Redwater Creek Steam and Heritage Society
0429 418 739
Fax 0364 283 995
chris@csetas.com.au
www.redwater.org.au

PRESS RELEASE - Steam Trains Return to Sheffield

Tuesday 2nd of November 2010

"The SteamFest site and the little steam locomotive at Sheffield have undergone a major refurbishment" Society President Chris Martin said. "Following successful trials on the weekend the locomotive returns to service after the first major mechanical overhaul the locomotive has received since it was assembled from parts of two locomotives in 1972. Following some tender loving care in the form of new pistons, new piston rods, new bearings and reboring of cylinders the society welcomes the return to service next weekend - the first weekend of November."

The work has taken a little longer than expected due to the difficulties of repairing wear in equipment of this era with no two components the same. The refurbishment works have kept a number of the members very busy - notably Peter Martin and John Alum who are approaching 50 years of looking after this locomotive.

While the locomotive has been out of action the society has not been resting with the construction of the new \$80,000 18m x 20m storage shed which has been funded by the Tasmanian Community fund and proceeds from past SteamFests.

As the new shed has been constructed in the area where power supplies were available for food stalls at past SteamFests the shed construction has also prompted the running of an underground water and power network across the site. This will allow powered stalls and food stalls to be distributed across the site with additional stalls already being booked for what promises to be a bumper SteamFest year next year. Power and water were also connected by the Redwater Creek Steam and Heritage Society to the newly constructed Kentish Community Mens Shed and a building which will be set up as an on site class room.

Over the coming months the Society intends to construct post and rail fencing along the railway track and in other areas on the site to improve safety and security at SteamFest. The group is also planning school open days in December which follow on from the successful school open day held last year.

"The Redwater Creek Railway site and SteamFest is a wonderful asset to the Kentish and North West Coast Community" Mr Martin said. "We are always interested in meeting new people on our running weekends and we always need more assistance with developing the project. If you can help contact us through the website www.redwater.org.au or let Beth Pagel know you would like to be involved by calling 64 911613."



Caption: New wheel bearings ready for final fitting



Caption: The new shed viewed from the Sheffield Railway Station platform.



Caption: The Sheffield steam train will not be operating for the next 2 months while the locomotive undergoes an overhaul.

END

For more information contact

**Chris Martin – details above
Or refer to www.redwater.org.au**